

What is claimed is:

1. A chewable composition comprising a chewable base and a probiotic agent.
- 5 2. A chewable composition according to Claim 1, wherein the probiotic agent is a micro-organism exhibiting antagonistic properties against undesirable strains of micro-organisms
3. A chewable composition according to Claim 1, wherein the probiotic agent is a lactic acid-producing microorganism.
- 10 4. A chewable composition according to Claim 3, wherein said lactic acid producing microorganism is selected from the group consisting of the genera *Lactobacillus*, *Lactococcus*, *Pediococcus*, *Leuconostoc*, *Sporolactobacillus*, *Bacillus* and mixtures thereof.
- 15 5. A chewable composition according to Claim 4, wherein said lactic acid producing microorganism is selected from the group consisting of the species *Bacillus coagulans*, *Bacillus subtilis*, *Bacillus laterosporus*, *Bacillus laevolacticus*, *Sporolactobacillus inulinus*, *Lactobacillus acidophilus*, *Lactobacillus curvatus*, *Lactobacillus plantarum*,
20 *Lactobacillus jensenii*, *Lactobacillus casei*, *Lactobacillus fermentum*, *Lactococcus lactis*, *Pediococcus acidilacti*, *Pediococcus pentosaceus*, *Pediococcus urinae*, *Leuconostoc mesenteroides* and mixtures thereof.
- 25 6. A chewable composition according to Claim 1, wherein the probiotic agent is a spore-forming micro-organism exhibiting antagonistic properties against undesirable strains of micro-organisms,
7. A chewable composition according to Claim 6, wherein said probiotic agent is a spore-forming lactic acid-producing micro-organism.
- 30 8. A chewable composition according to Claim 7, wherein said the probiotic agent is a species of the genus *Bacillus* and/or of the genus *Sporolactobacillus* and most preferably a species selected from the group consisting of *Bacillus coagulans*, *Bacillus subtilis*, *Bacillus laterosporus*, *Bacillus laevolacticus*, *Sporolactobacillus inulinus* and mixture

thereof in their living form or dormant form (spore).

- 5 9. A chewable composition according to any of the preceding claims, which is typically a chewing gum composition comprising from about 0.01% to about 10% of probiotic agent or mixtures thereof by weight of total.
- 10 10. A chewable composition according to any of the preceding claims 1 to 8, which is typically a chewing gum composition comprising from about 10% to about 90% of chewing gum base by weight of the total composition.
- 11 11. A chewable composition according to Claim 9, which comprises from about 10% to about 90% of chewing gum base by weight of the total composition.
- 15 12. The use, in a chewable composition, typically a chewing gum, of probiotic agents, preferably spore-forming microorganisms, which exhibit antagonistic properties against undesirable strains of microorganisms (in their living or dormant form), for effective reduction of bad breath.
- 20 13. The use, in a chewable composition, typically a chewing gum, of probiotic agents, preferably spore-forming microorganisms, which exhibit antagonistic properties against undesirable strains of microorganisms, (in their living or dormant form), for long lasting odour control in use.